

September 2009

VA National Acquisition Center's (NAC) **FEDERAL SUPPLY SCHEDULE (FSS) MONTHLY E-NEWSLETTER**

Providing world class healthcare products & services to the federal marketplace

Training Topic: How to place and administer task orders against Federal Supply Schedule 621 I Professional and Allied Healthcare Staffing Services that are subject to the Service Contract Act

FSS Schedule 621I, Professional and Allied Healthcare Staffing Services, offers Federal Government agencies and other authorized users a vehicle to obtain quality clinical staffing solutions from qualified/experienced companies in an efficient, streamlined and cost effective manner. This schedule assists medical facilities in augmenting their staff in critical times of need by providing a full range of direct and indirect patient care providers that are necessary to support a healthcare system.

Federal service contracts in excess of \$2,500 performed within the U.S. are required to contain mandatory provisions regarding minimum wages and fringe benefits, safe and sanitary working conditions, and notification to employees of minimum allowable compensation under the Service Contract Act (SCA). The SCA applies to Federal contract for service employees including hourly-paid non-exempt workers such as nurses, physician assistants, licensed practical nurses (LPN), pharmacy technicians, medical assistants, and radiologic technologists. SCA provisions are incorporated into all FSS 621 I contracts and therefore, flow down into all resulting task orders placed for specific requirements, along with the required, appropriate U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) Wage Determinations (WD).

What are Wage Determinations (WD)? A SCA WD is a list of minimum wage rates and fringe benefits issued by DOL based on wage survey data or other information for a locality. DOL issues WDs by State and County regions resulting in hundreds of wage determinations nationwide. FSS contractors are required to pay service employees no less than the specified wages and fringe benefits contained in the WDs incorporated into their contract. The contracting office is required to update the WDs in all SCA covered contracts annually.

Effective October 1, 2009, the applicable WDs will be updated in all FSS 621 I contracts. Any new task order placed by an authorized customer agency will already include the applicable SCA provisions and accompanying WDs for their specific requirements. Therefore, no action is necessary by the customer agencies that place new orders.

Any option exercised under an existing task order will be updated to include the applicable WD(s) incorporated into the basic FSS contract effective October 1, 2009 at the time the task order option is exercised. A contractor may be entitled to a price adjustment under the task order if the conditions in clause 52.222-44 Fair Labor Standards Act and Service Contract Act – Price Adjustment are met. A price adjustment for an option period under a task order shall be evaluated by the customer agency and any change in task order price will be modified into the task order as appropriated, provided that the adjusted price does not exceed the maximum FSS 621 I contract rate as awarded in the base FSS contract. Guidance on SCA price adjustments can be found in the Navy's SCA Price Adjustment Desk Top guide found at <https://acquisition.navy.mil/content/view/full/3736>.

Reminder: FSS contractors are required to pay service employees no less than the specified wages and fringe benefits in the WDs included in their FSS contract. SCA compliance is the contractor's responsibility. For a current and archived list of WDs included in FSS 621 I and their effective dates, please see our SCA WD database and instructions on the 621I homepage: <http://www1.va.gov/oamm/oa/nac/fsss/fssprotrain.cfm>.

For additional information regarding FSS Schedule 621 I or the SCA, please contact the 621 I helpdesk at 708-786-5223 and/or helpdesk.fss621i@va.gov

RECENTLY AWARDED FSS CONTRACTS (AUGUST 2009)

Pharmaceutical, Dental, Patient Mobility, & X-Ray (Website: <http://www1.va.gov/oamm/oa/nac/fsss/pharmfss.cfm>)

- Blaine Pharmaceuticals: V797P-5116B (Small, Woman Owned Pharmaceutical Business)
- Ista Pharmaceuticals: V797P-5110B (Small Pharmaceutical Business)
- Paladin Labs: V797P-5101E (Small Pharmaceutical Business)
- Affordable Pharmaceuticals, LLC: V797P-5107E (Small Pharmaceutical Business)
- Cubist Pharmaceuticals, LLC: V797P-5108B (Small Pharmaceutical Business)
- Three Rivers Pharmaceuticals, LLC: V797P-5114B (Small Pharmaceutical Business)
- Colgate Oral Pharmaceuticals: V797P-5105B (Large Pharmaceutical Business)
- Pharmderm: V797P-5115B (Large Pharmaceutical Business)
- EuroAmerican IP, LLC BDA Burn-B Gone: V797P-5117B (Small, Woman Owned Pharmaceutical Business)
- National Vitamin Company: V797P-5016B (Small Pharmaceutical Business)
- Komet USA, LLC: V797P-3193M (Large Dental Business)
- Becton, Dickinson, & Company: V797P-5109B (Large Test Kit & Test Set Company)

Medical/Surgical Equipment (Website: <http://www1.va.gov/oamm/oa/nac/fsss/medequipsupfss.cfm>)

- Netech Corporation: V797P-4228B (Small Med/Surg Business)
- Duraline Medical Products: V797P-4229B (Small Med/Surg Business)
- School Health Corporation: V797P-4224B (Small, Woman Owned Med/Surg Business)
- Medical Design Systems DBA Mass Medical Design: V797P-4230B (Small Med/Surg Business)

Medical Professional & Laboratory Testing Services & Cost-Per-Test (Website:

<http://www1.va.gov/oamm/oa/nac/fsss/fssproftrain.cfm>)

- FlexCare, LLC DBA FlexCare Medical Staffing: V797P-7225A (Large Professional Medical Healthcare Services Business)
- Curastat Inc.: V797P-7212A (Small Professional Medical Healthcare Services Business)
- Professional Respiratory Care Services Inc.: V797P-7226A (Small, Woman Owned Professional Medical Healthcare Services Business)
- Pro Nurse LLC BDA Independence Anesthesia Services: V797P-7223A (Large Professional Medical Healthcare Services Business)
- Staff America Inc.: V797P-7227A (Small Professional Medical Healthcare Services Business)
- ARUP Laboratories: V797P-7211A (Large Professional Medical Healthcare Services Business)

In order to obtain pricing information for all of the companies referenced above, please review the NAC Search Tool (<http://www1.va.gov/nac/index.cfm>) or GSA E-Library (<http://www.gsaelibrary.gsa.gov/ElibMain/scheduleList.do>).

IMPORTANT DATES**FSS Customer Training Schedule (Only Applicable to Government Agencies)**

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Murfreesboro, TN – Oct 7th
POC: Ms. Betty Benmark
Betty.Benmark@va.gov • Brooklyn, NY – Nov 17th & 18th
POC: Ms. Christine Carballo
Christine.Carballo@va.gov | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phoenix, AZ – Oct 21st & 22nd
POC: Mr. Jim Woodring
Jim.Woodring@va.gov • Bronx, NY – Nov 19th & 20th
POC: Ms. Christina Katz
Christina.Katz@va.gov |
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If you would like to attend a training session, schedule a new one, or request additional information, please contact Ms. Veronica Hazen at Veronica.Hazen@va.gov. Please note that the FSS Customer Training is **ONLY APPLICABLE TO GOVERNMENT AGENCIES.**

FSS Personnel will be attending the following conferences:

- Med-Trade – Atlanta, GA (Oct 12th – 15th)

If you have any questions, concerns, or would like to learn more about a specific topic and/or issue, please feel free to contact the FSS helpdesk at (708)786-7737 and/or helpdesk.ammhinfss@va.gov.